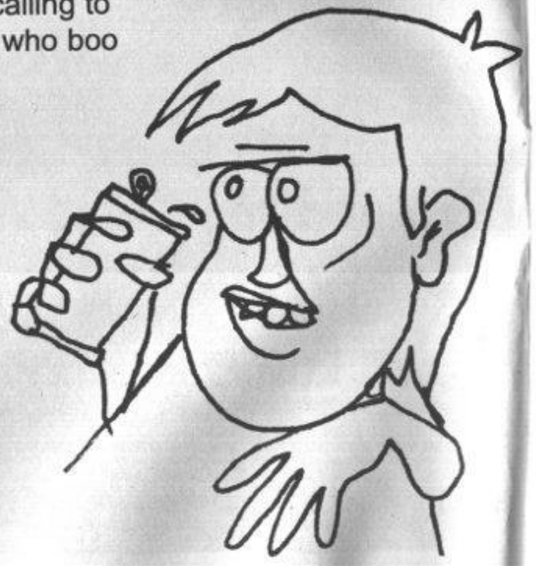
BALANCE

THE
RAD DAD
ISSUE

INDEPENDENT

Intro Spiel

Becoming a dad changes your perspective on things, it's got me thinking. There are plenty of skaters who are also dads. Lance Mountain has been a dad since I first started skating. Often times, in the magazines, I'll read about skaters who comment on being grateful to provide for their families with skateboarding. To me that's such a foreign concept, providing for my children, myself, or anybody else with skateboarding. So I started to think wow, I'm really selfish for wanting to skate all the time. That's all it is for someone like me, a selfish indulgence. Skateboarding is not putting food on the table or paying the mortgage. As you may or may not know, making the time, pulling a sesh together is just that much more difficult when you have kids. I get so antsy though, aggro, impossible to be around when I don't get to skate. I'm very childish in that respect. So I was talking about all this with Dan Tag and he reminded me of the comradery we have through skateboarding. I notice there's something missing when one of our friends is not there. After missing a few Thursday night vert sessions, I was back on the deck and Grant turns to me and said "it's good to have you back." Without the comradery, committment, and just clowning around with friends, skateboarding wouldn't amount to much. For the cats on the other side of the equation, it stings a little less than say, losing your bro to a girlfriend, or a career. But I can still hear them, "damn, where's Joey P been? ... oh he's got two kids now." Well I'm over here making this zine during nap times. This one goes out to the rad dads still shredding, the bros who keep calling to get me in the sesh, and most of all the ones who boo and call me a pussy until I make it.



© Elfer Productions 2010

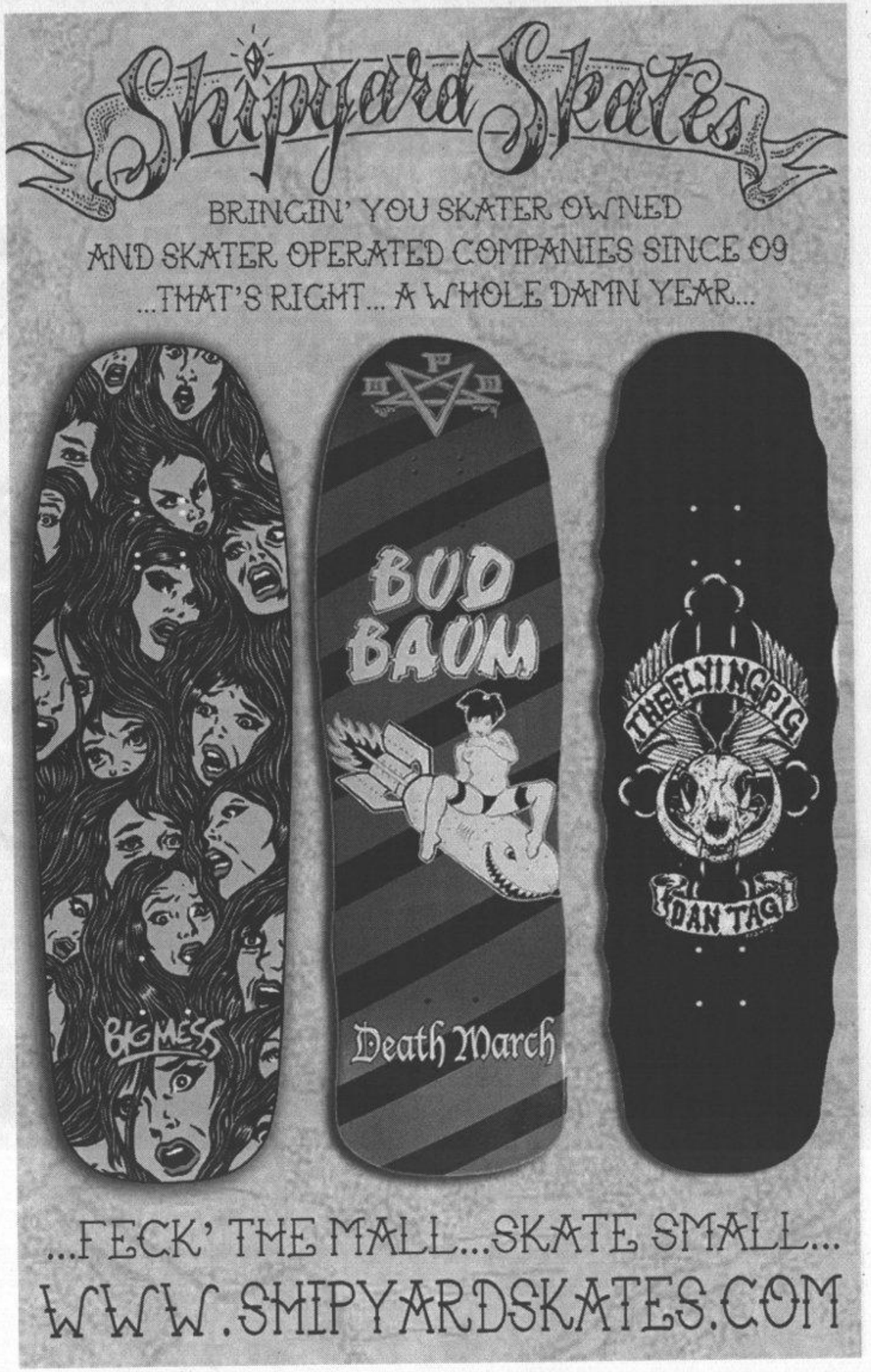
BALANCE
7th issue in print

contributors
Arthur Baum, Gregg Bernstein, Michael Burnett, Andrew Clark, Rick Charnoski, Coach Kenny, Kevin Day, Michael Flint, Brooks Fritz, Geoff Graham, Darin Hoopes, Phil Jackson, Todd Johnson, Kevin Kann, Andy Kropff, Derek Krasauskas, Hilary Mann, Brewce Martin, Travis Millard, Nate Newton, Coan Nichols, Sebastian Nichols, Jack Ortiz, Joseph Peleckis, Joey Pianello, Pink Crack Ross, Davey Rogers, Chris Rooney, Dan Tag, Tooth, Justin Wysock, Adam Young

balanceskatemag.com

344 Dawson St.
Philadelphia, PA
19128

on the cover
My buddy Fish said, "don't put Lance Mountain on the cover. He gets hyped up enough. Put Bud's yearbook picture on the cover. 'What's up?'" I think Bud gets hyped up enough also and after reading about Lance's Holiday Inn Thrasher cover I figured a proper frontal over the channel was in order. Plus he's a rad dad. Photo © Rhino. Ramona 2009.

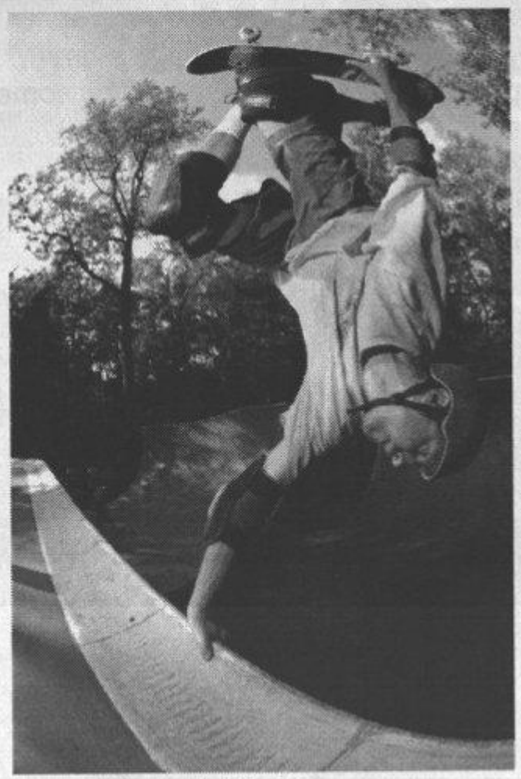


RAD DAD

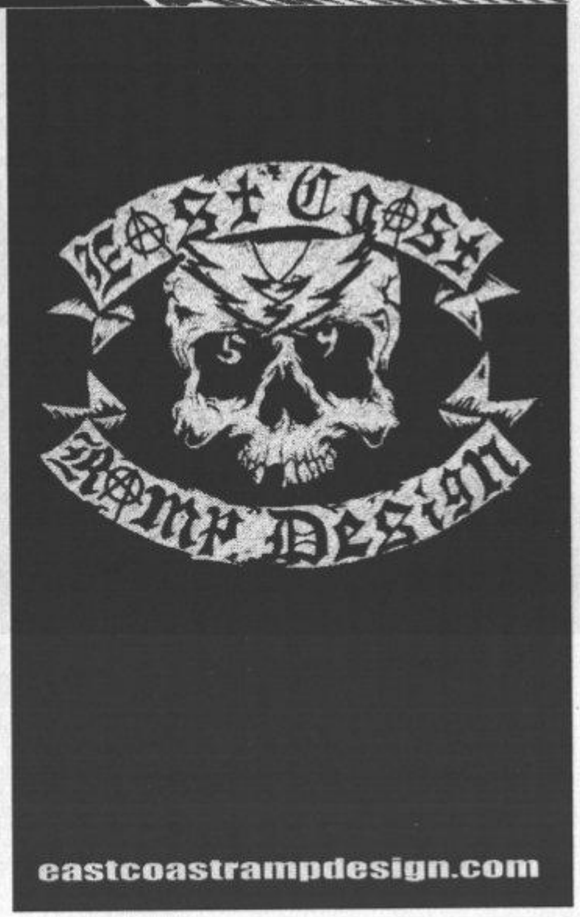
DEREK KRASAUSKAS

DK tail grab Chaumpa ramp
Photo: Geoff Graham

What year were you born?
I was born in the lovely year of 1971!
What year did you start skateboarding? I started skating with my brother and cousin around 1976 and had my first visit to the hospital about a year later. I didn't have a skate helmet at the time so my dad made me wear a novelty football helmet, "OJ Simpson" at that to go bomb some hills. Speed wobbles to head bang to the ER room.Plastic board.
What year was your first kid born?
My first daughter Jordan was born in June of 1996.
Are you a stay at home Dad?
I wish!! Ha ha that would rip...
Does your wife stay home?
My wife Tanya works part time as a yoga instructor at multiple places around Baltimore.
Do your kids go to day care?
My oldest daughter Jordan is in 8th grade, my next daughter Ava is in 3rd grade, and my four year old son Max is in preschool and ready to skate.
What was or is your child care situation? My wife makes her yoga schedule around taking care of the kids and after work, when she has to teach, I take over.
What do you do for a living?
I work as an I.T. tech full time in Baltimore.
How often do you skate?
Weather permitting, once or twice a week on vert and I have a mini ramp in my backyard. Nothing special but enough to get some fun in.
What's the raddest, most recent, thing you've done on a skateboard? Snapped my leg in three places!! Nah I would say fside and bside feeble grinds and bside ollies in the gnarly pocket of the Chaumpa ramp.
What's the sickest thing you've ever done? Banged up my wife's minivan by wrecking into a friends truck at CornFest!! Or the solo paddle out during my honeymoon on a BIG day at wilderness in Puerto Rico. Took me a few tries to make the paddle.
Any advice or suggestions for rookie dads or those expecting a critter? Chill!! It will all work out if you have a cool chick/wife and if you don't then make it a good business relationship for the good of the child. You can't be selfish and make it work once you pop out a baby. Once you have a kid life is NOT all about you... bitches.



Devin "Mary Poppins" McGuire
eggplant at Chaumpa's
© Geoff Graham



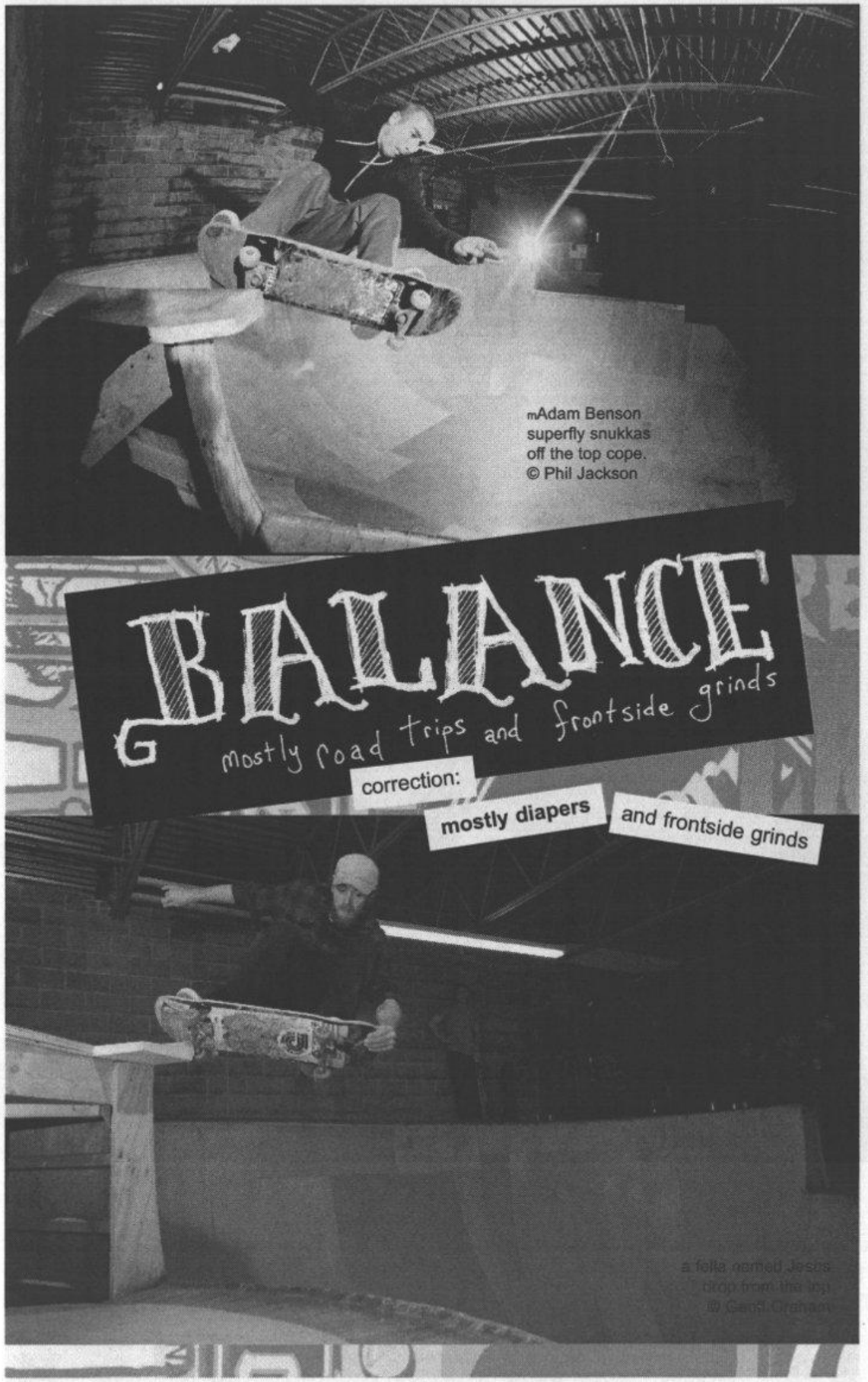
DAVEY ROGERS

Lippa @ Slop's. Photo: Nate Newton

What year were you born?
Summer of love
What year did you start skateboarding?
82 or 83, with Buddy Nichols
When were your kids born?
Owen, 1998 Zoe, 2000
Where do you live?
Newport, Rhode Island
Where do you skate?
I skate 5.9 Attleboro compound, Sloppy's pool, Taunton, and some other small area parks.
Who do you usually skate with?
I'm going to Taunton with my son today, he skates and bmx's there. When it's big boy sesh time I skate with all the local shreddogs in New England, whoever's down to shralp at the time.
Are you a stay at home Dad? Does your wife stay home? What's your child care situation? We both work, there is an occasional babysitter, but Owen is 11 and our neighborhood is pretty nice so they can watch themselves and play with other kids in the neighborhood for a few hours no problem and we check em with phones. Child care was expensive, and so is preschool. My Mom did, and occasionaly now still does, come up once a week from Boston.

What do you do for a living?
I have a landscapng business
How often do you skate?
I'm hyped if my schedule and my body let me skate hard once or twice a week, thats enough for me to get my fix.
What's the raddest, most recent, thing you've done on a skateboard?
Survival, and hanging on to a handful of my more favorite tricks.
What's the sickest thing you've ever done? (on a skateboard? or a skate trip?) I miss big airs of all types on vert, nuthin beats floatin around, but we have no vert close enough to get to regularly let alone at all with my windows. Road trips in the Northwest and to California with Monk and Smiley, Swim, Wez and crew to skate pools and everything in our way, piled at least 6 deep in a tiny pick up (the Cauldron) make for some epic memories.
Any advice or suggestions for rookie dads or those expecting a critter? Start working on your patience and saving your money, but don't worry, dadding is an awesome natural process/instinct.

back smith @ duggy's. Photo: Tooth



mAdam Benson superfly snukkas off the top cope. © Phil Jackson

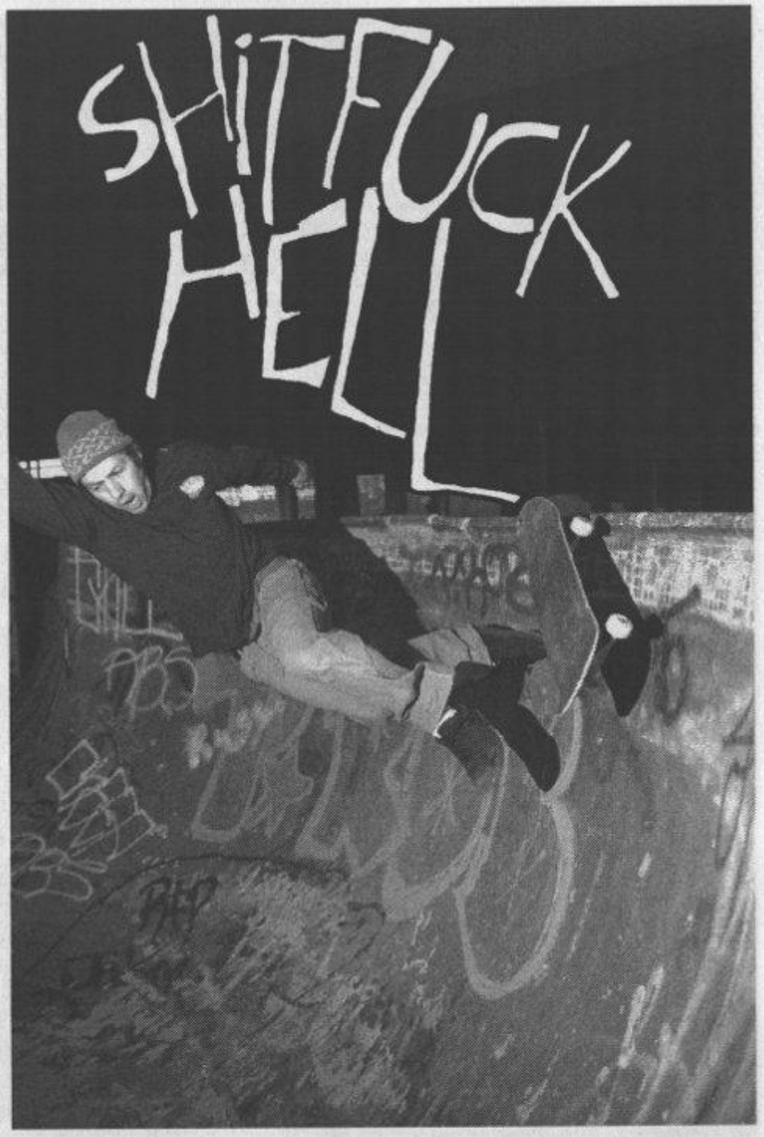
a folla named Jesse drop from the top © Gerd Oswald

Elissa Steamer lien tailslide over Bud Baum's high school crush. Gender stereotypes go out the window. Pro photo © Michael Burnett. Inset poached from Bud's yearbook.

Mulitple-Choice

"Drug abuse in skateboarding is
(A) roughly parallel to the rest of society,
(B) standard issue,
(C) what do you think this is, the fucking NFL?
(D) not worth talking about,
(E) pass the joints."

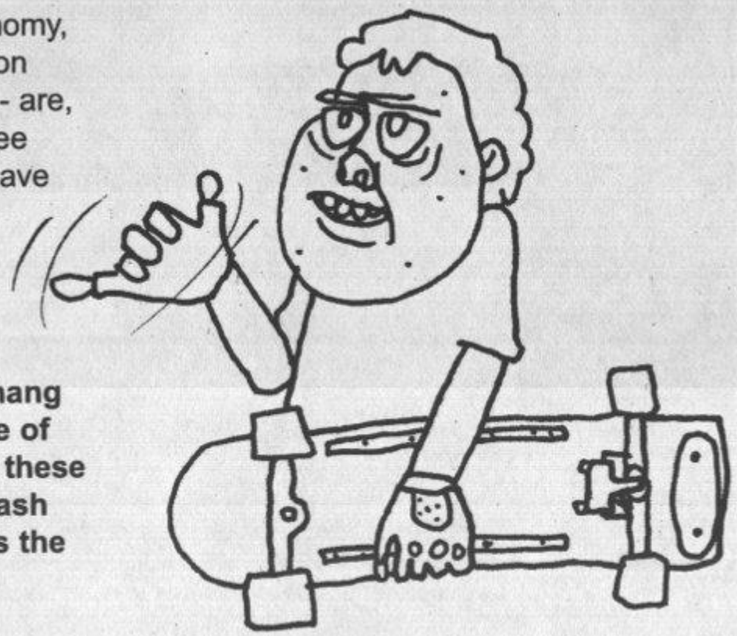
- Lowboy
"Skate and Destroy Or Multiple Choices (Something to offend everyone)"
© Thrasher 1982



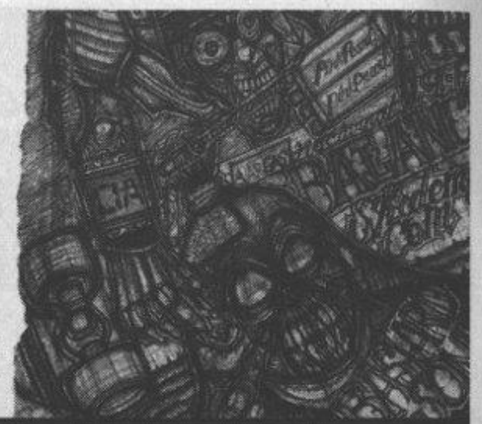
Fernando tastes the pain of a crailslide gone bad. FDR in the winter is not a marshmallow world. Photo © Land Pirate

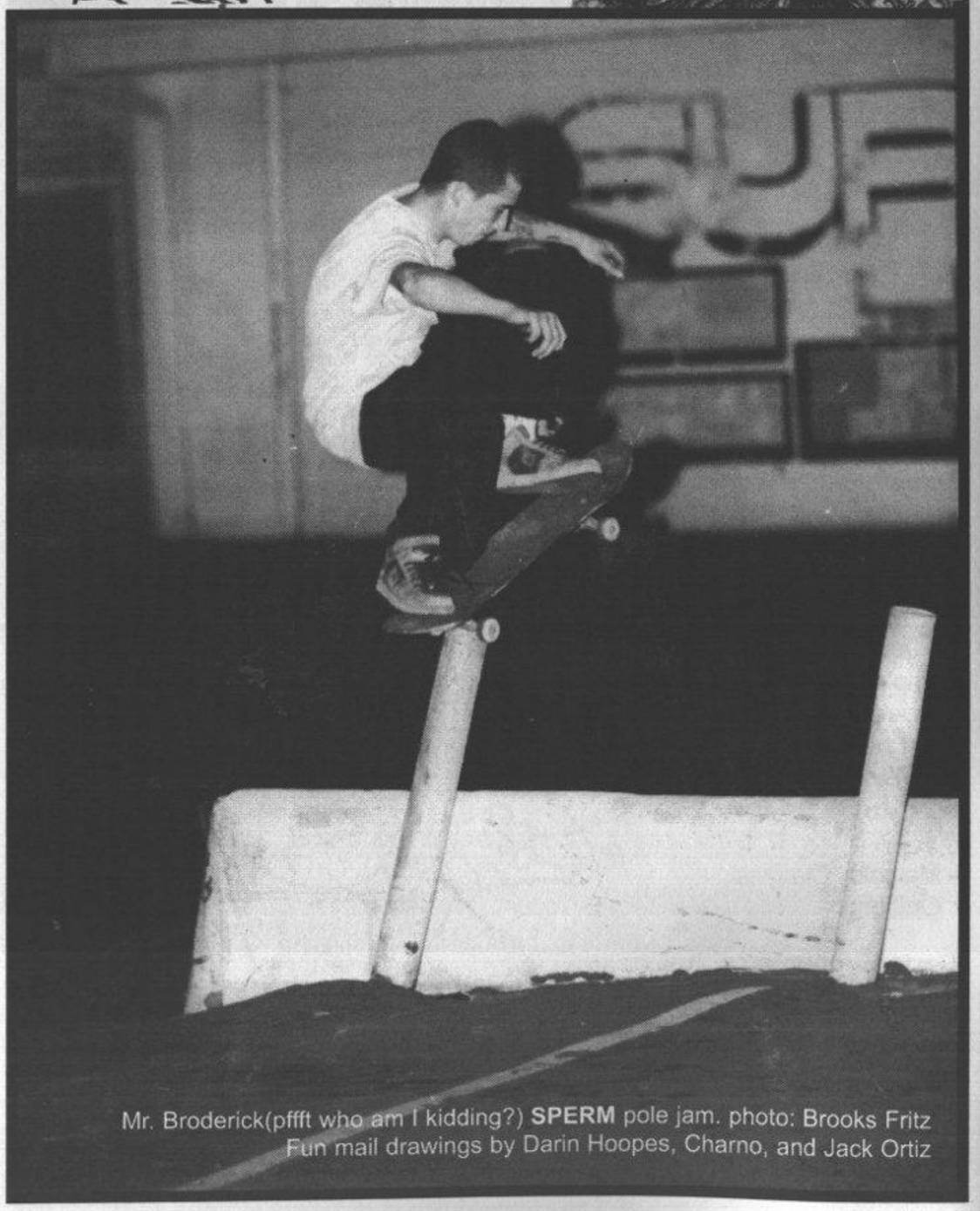
"Those three things - autonomy, complexity, and a connection between effort and reward - are, most people agree, the three qualities that work has to have if it is to be satisfying."

- Malcolm Gladwell
Outliers



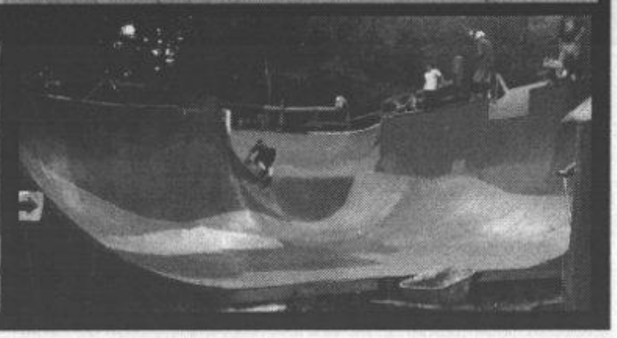
Darin Hoopes drew this hang loose cat as well as some of the other illustrations on these pages. Send him some cash for his zine *Thing Bad* it's the best. 87 San Marcos St. Austin, TX 78702





Mr. Broderick(pffft who am I kidding?) **SPERM** pole jam. photo: Brooks Fritz
Fun mail drawings by Darin Hoopes, Charno, and Jack Ortiz

Here's to bending wood in the backyard. Nate barely seems to notice as Hiler blasts head high over the hip. West Virginia, 1995. Justin takes flight from his mini-ramp into his bowl. Pennsylvania, 2006. The Woodman and his colorful ramp, New York, 2001. Snapshots by Justin Wysock, Peleckis, and Bud Baum.



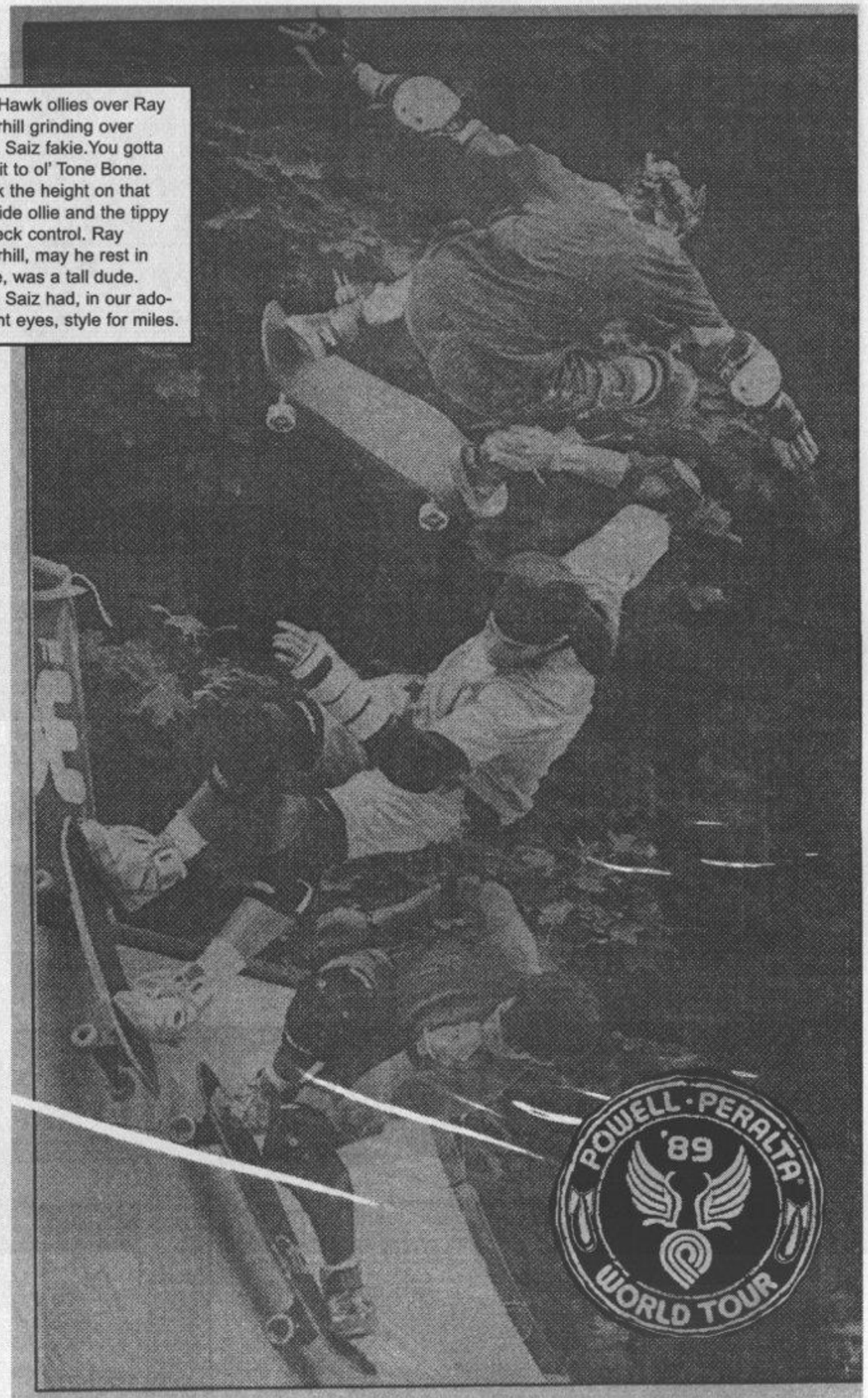
HOT TRIPLES ACTION

As soon as I saw John Rattray's rainbow ride over Michael Burnett's backside disaster and some dude getting low beneath them I thought of the Bones

a selfless act for the good of the group

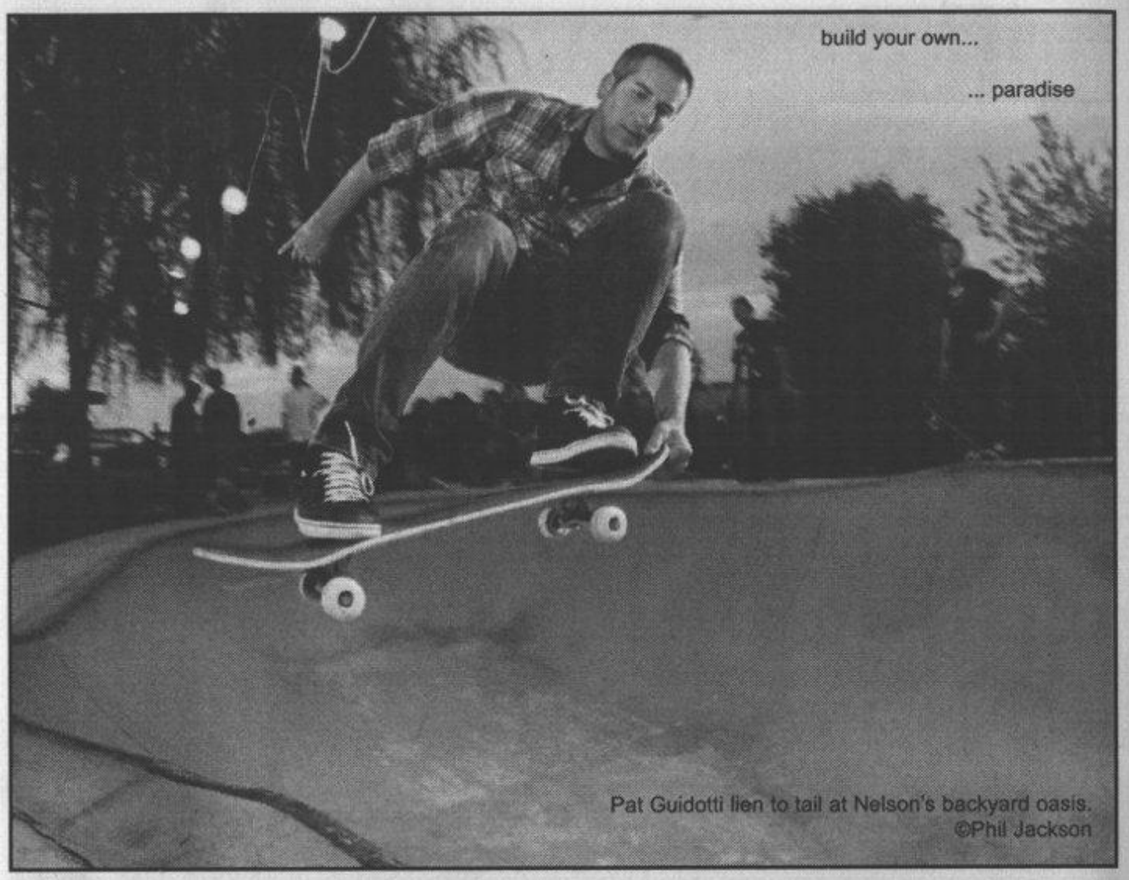
Brigade demo of yesteryear and triples action in general. Let's start by saluting the guys on the bottom in these scenarios. It would seem as though they have the easy job, staying below the lip, after all. They put themselves in harm's way merely to serve as a moving obstacle for the other two guys to do tricks over. No glory in it, mind you, it's a selfless act for the good of the group. Moving on down memory lane. Along with hundreds of other groms, I made my way to Whitman, Massachustts on the 14th day of July in 1989 to witness the bones brigade demo on their traveling fold out mini-ramp and portable "street" course. It was epic. This photo I poached from the newspaper I used to deliver. (Sidenote: The best thing about having a paper route, I realized even then, was that I was guaranteed a chance to skate every day. Gotta deliver the papers and then skate home, no matter what responsibilities were pressing down at the time.)

Tony Hawk ollies over Ray Underhill grinding over Steve Saiz fakie.You gotta hand it to ol' Tone Bone. Check the height on that frontside ollie and the tippy toe deck control. Ray Underhill, may he rest in peace, was a tall dude. Steve Saiz had, in our adolescent eyes, style for miles.



Gary Higgins/The Patriot Ledger

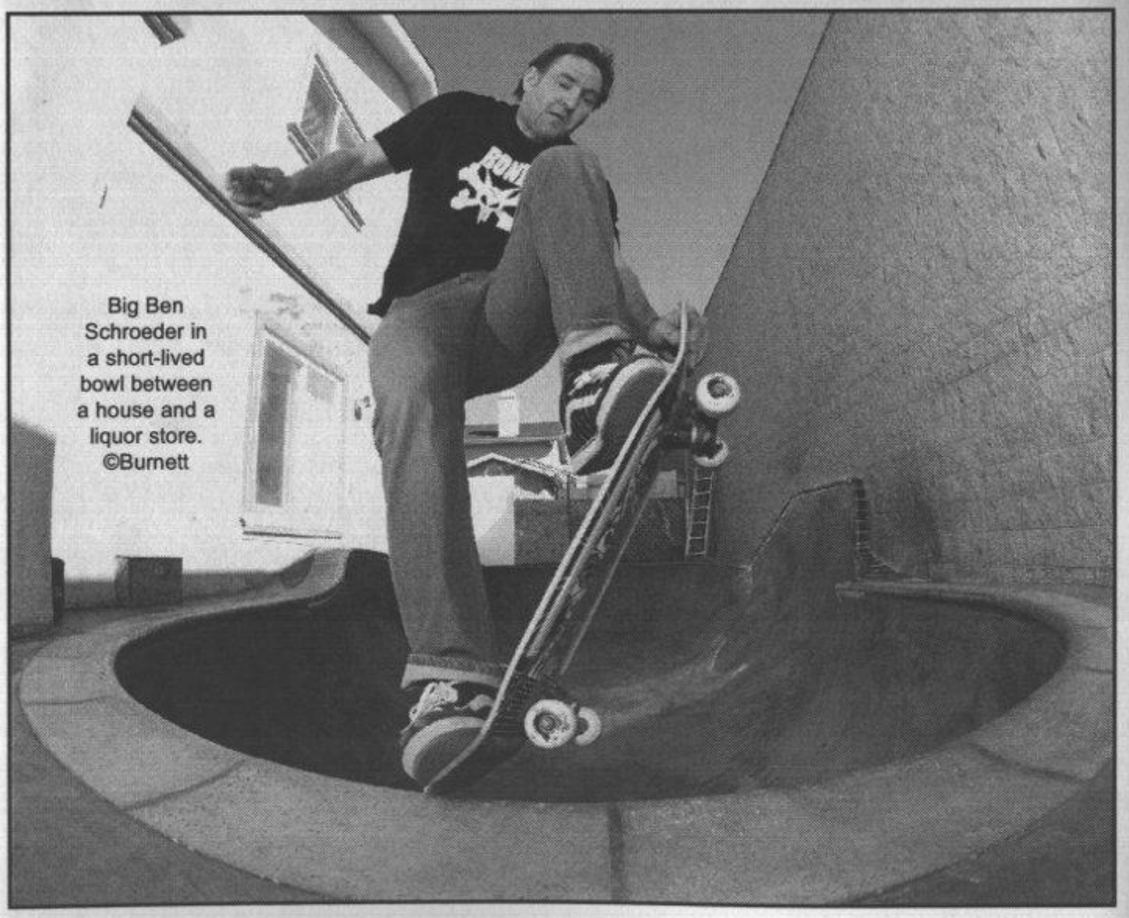
Some of the world's top-ranked skateboarders are members of the Bones Brigade, stars of a demonstration in Whitman last night.



build your own...

... paradise

Pat Guidotti lien to tail at Nelson's backyard oasis.
©Phil Jackson

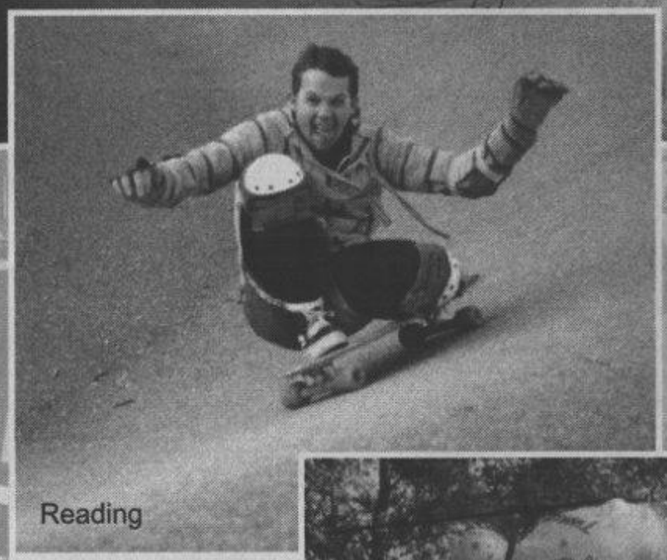


Big Ben Schroeder in a short-lived bowl between a house and a liquor store.
©Burnett

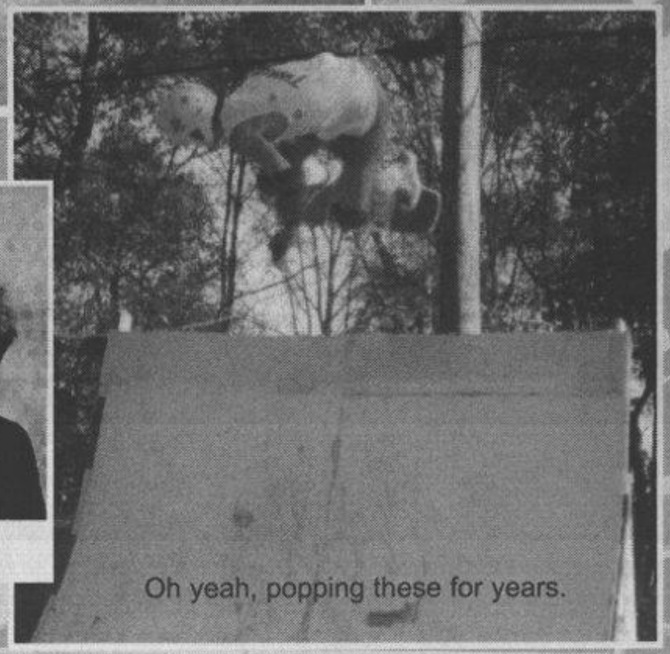
photo: Phil Jackson

OG Philly park loc and everyone's favorite **Bud Baum**

double vision grind in the peanut

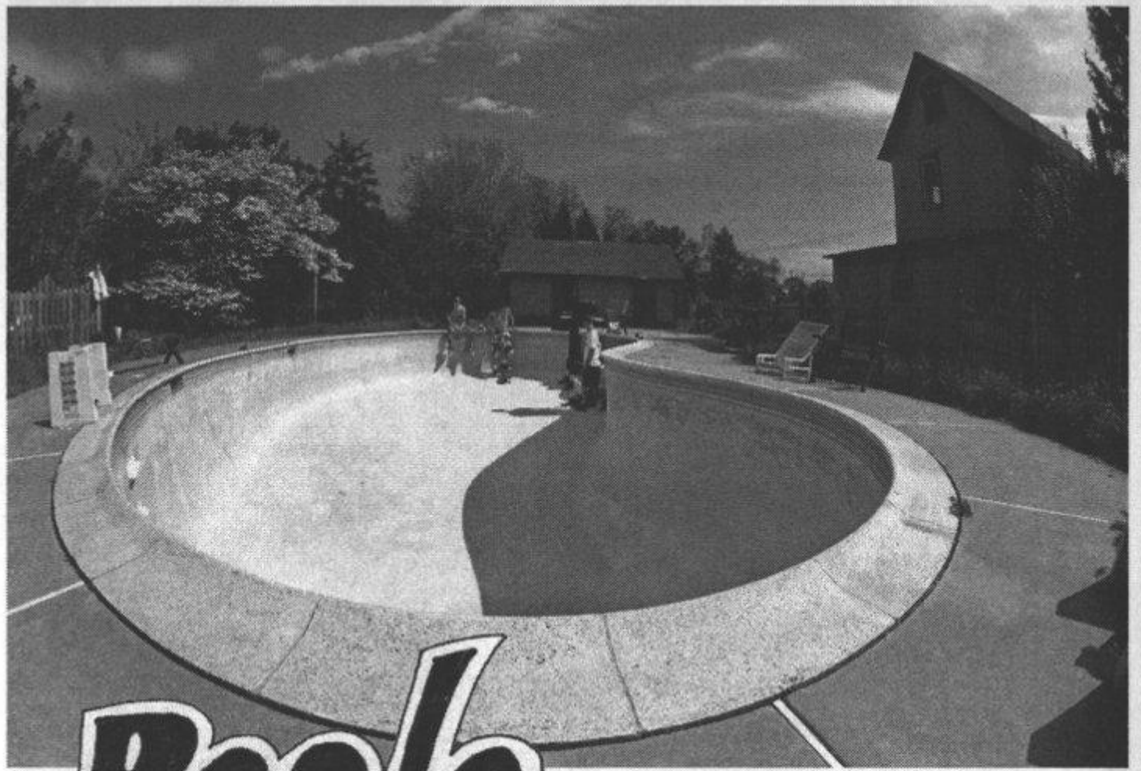


Reading



Oh yeah, popping these for years.

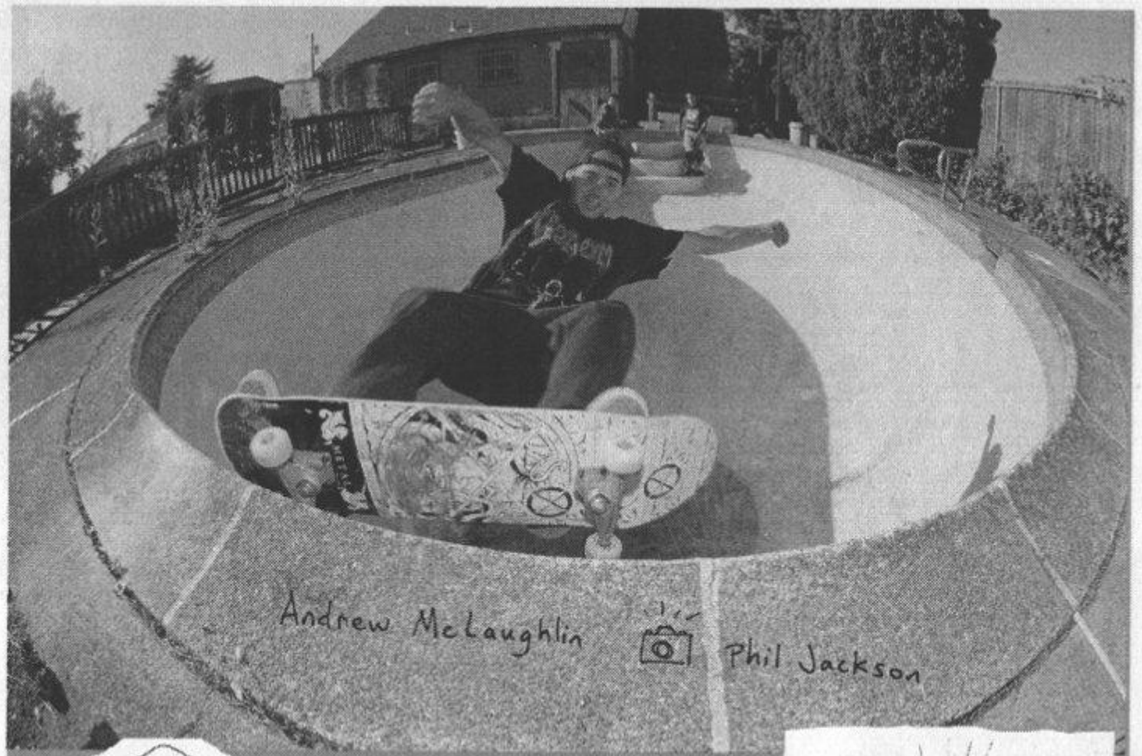
ARTHUR BAUM
"Buddy"



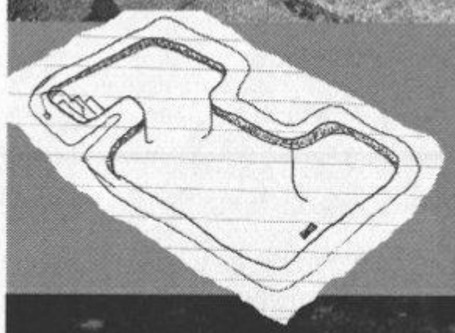
Geoff Graham

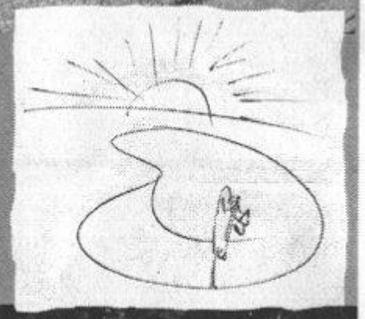
Pools ~~Swimming~~ pools

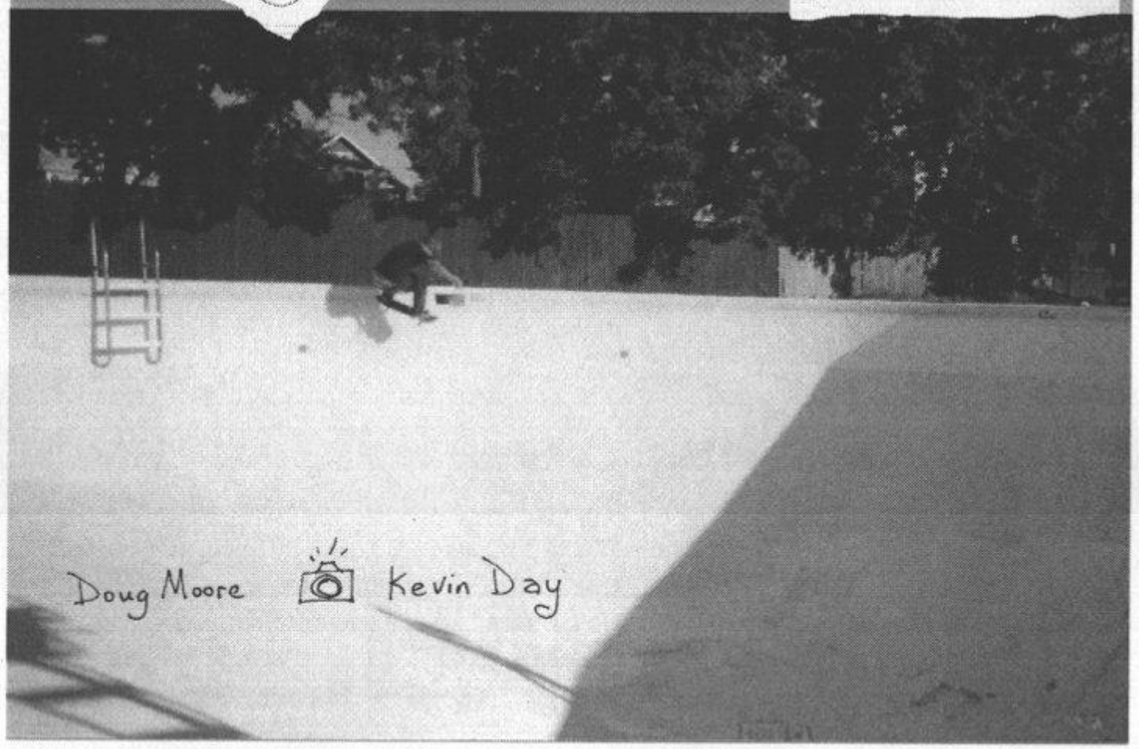
Alex Perelson Michael Burnett



Andrew McLaughlin Phil Jackson







Doug Moore Kevin Day

Peter Hewitt Rhino

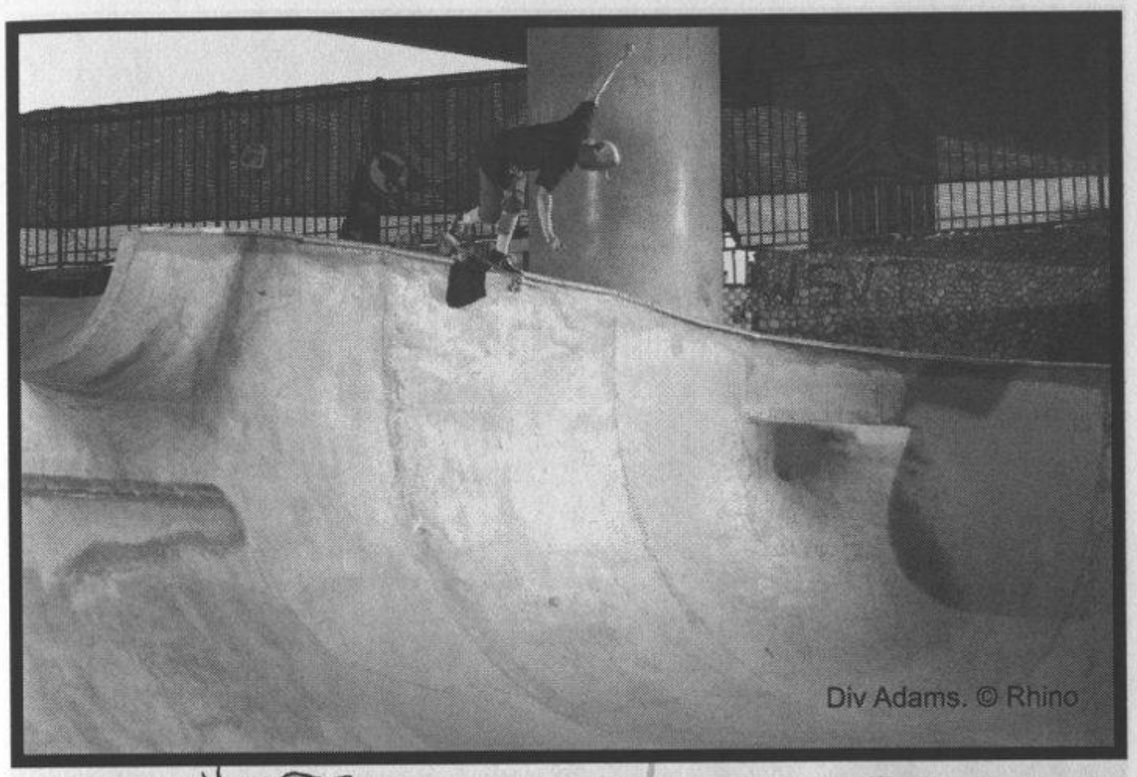
BALANCE.

BUDDY NICHOLS

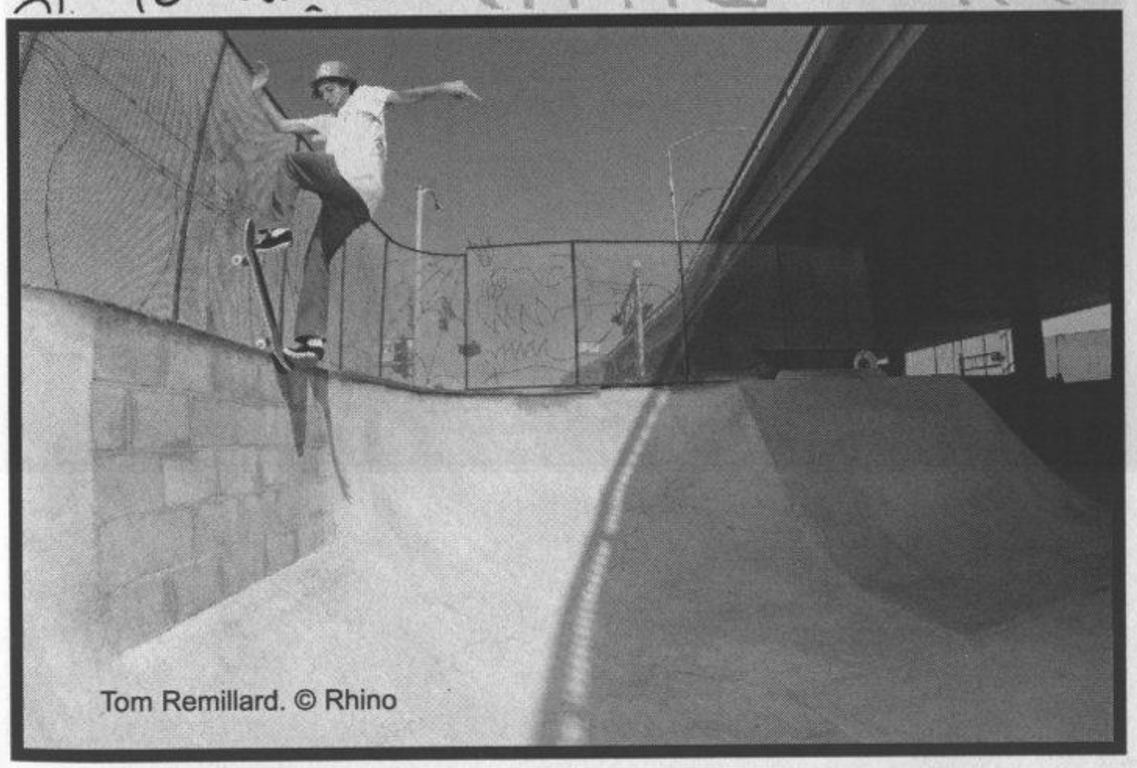
What year were you born?
I was born in 1970
What year did you start skateboarding? I started skating in 1977 with my older brother but I really started skating in 1982 with Davey Rogers in Boston Mass.
When were your kids born?
My first baby girl Tallulah Juniper was born in 2006 followed 20 months later by my second baby girl Varueka Valentine.
Are you a stay at home Dad? Does your wife stay home? Do your kids go to day care?
I have a studio a couple blocks from the house but I am also on the road shooting quite a bit — both kids in day care.
What do you do for a living?
I make films and videos with my good friend Rick "the wild man" Charnoski.

How often do you skate?
I try and skate as often as possible. I am lucky to have a schedule that frees me up to skate a few times a week- and I live in LA and there are loads of amazing backyard pools to skate. (contrary to popular belief it rules.... if you like to skate killer shit year round). Mostly backyard pools but the occasional skatepark or Lance's pool.

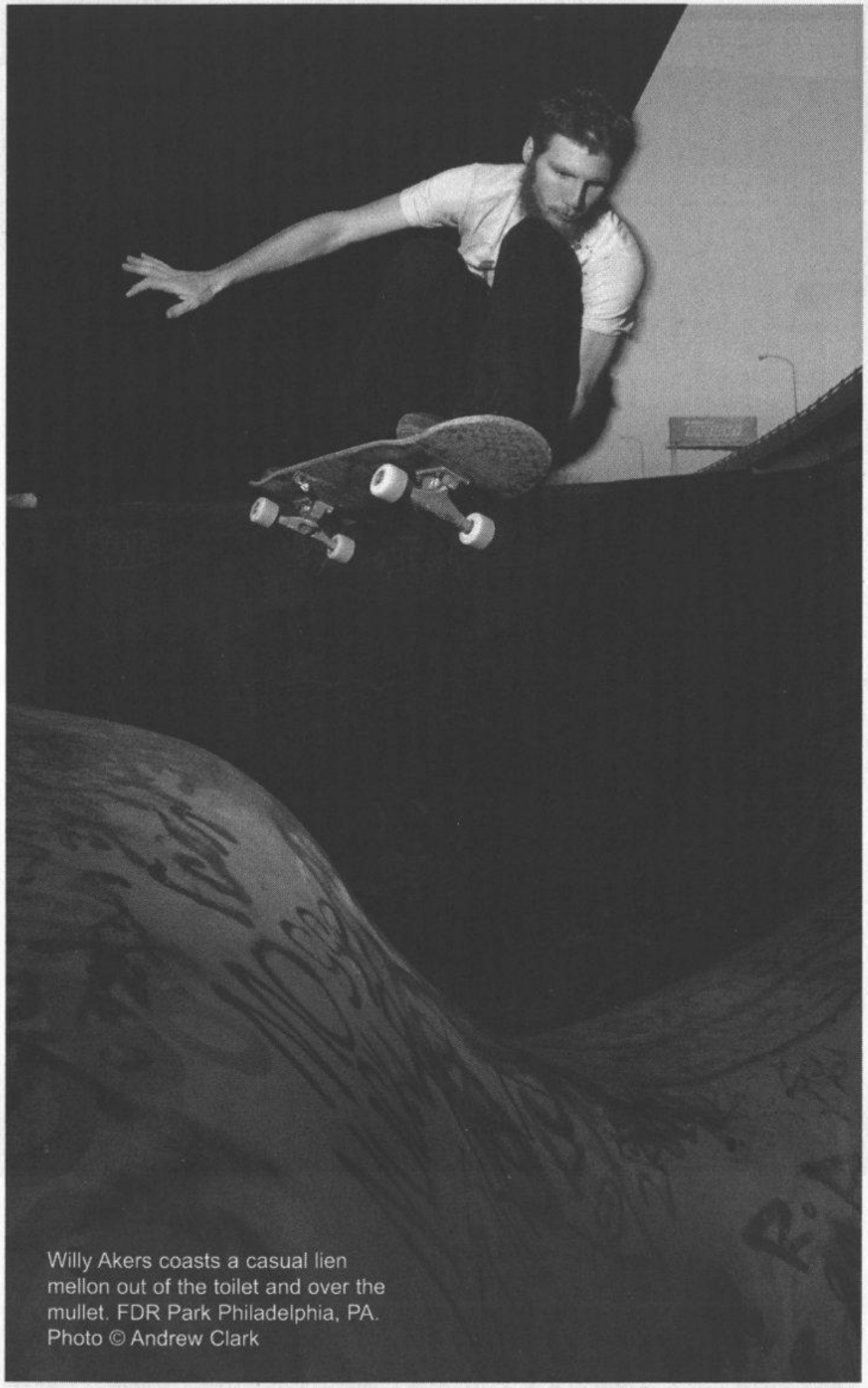
Who do you usually skate with?
I skate with Rick Charnoski, Steve Bailey, and assorted pool rats.
What's the raddest, most recent, thing you've done on a skateboard? Honestly it feels pretty rad just skating period. With all the stress and craziness of having kids and work etc you really have to make time to skate and really want it.
What's the sickest thing you've ever done? (on a skateboard? or a skate trip?) Ride away. Lots of good trips under my belt. Living the life of a skater for over 25 years is pretty freaking sick.
Any advice or suggestions for rookie dads or those expecting a critter? Don't think about it. Go with the flow and make sure you have a good lady cuz she is gonna be the one doing most of the work- on that same note make sure to take good care of your lady because if she aint happy then dad aint happy and then the kids aint happy and then all of a sudden your killer life will suck.



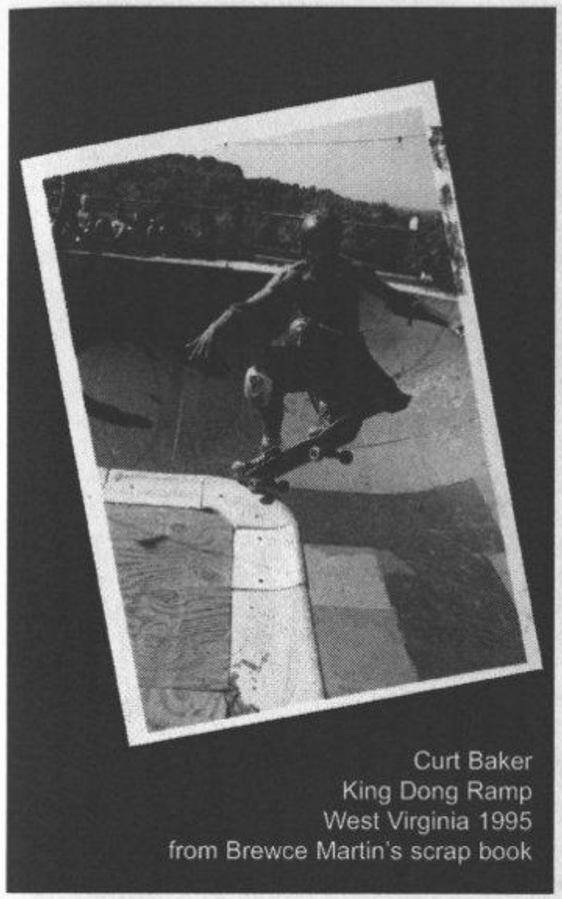
Div Adams. © Rhino



Tom Remillard. © Rhino



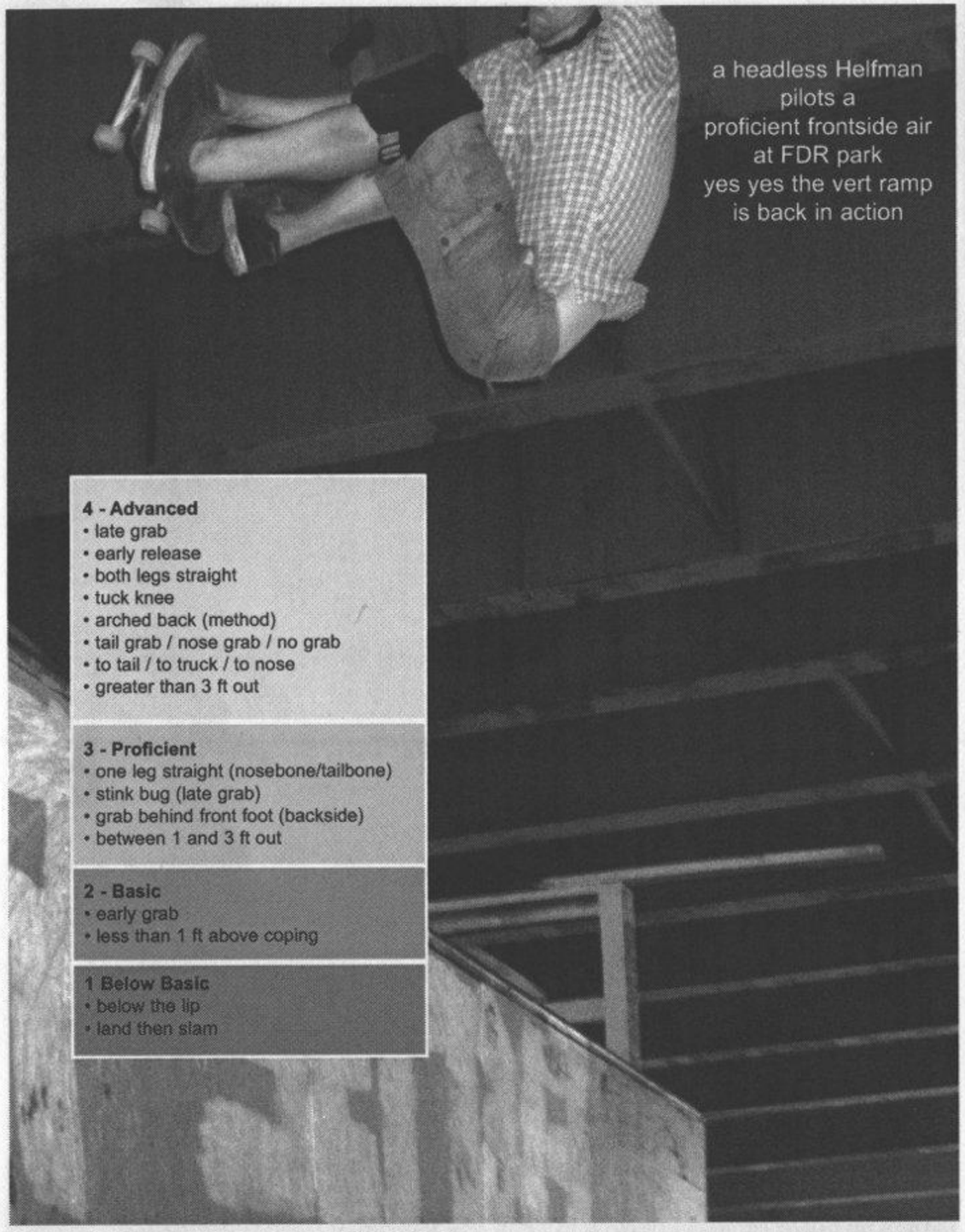
Willy Akers coasts a casual lien mellon out of the toilet and over the mullet. FDR Park Philadelphia, PA. Photo © Andrew Clark



Curt Baker
King Dong Ramp
West Virginia 1995
from Brewce Martin's scrap book

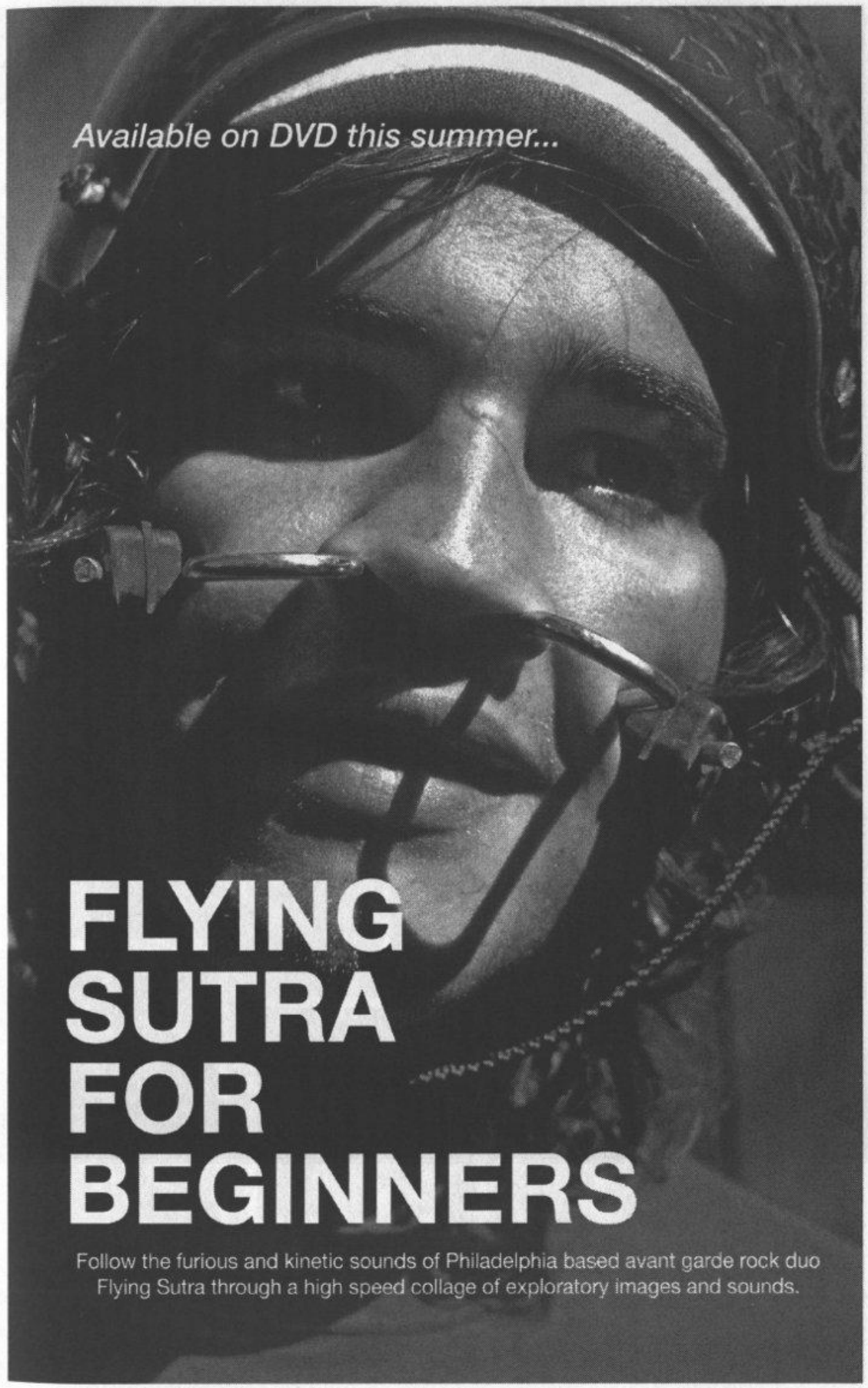
PAIN CHEATERS
Knee Pads
paincheaters.com (978) 657-7746

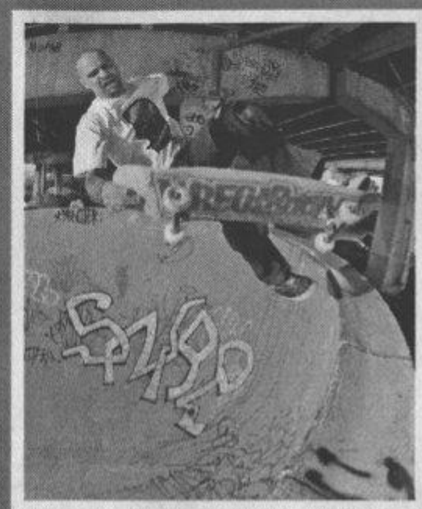
quality electronix
aquaPodcasts, cassette, cd, and radio mix archives
since the nine six
drop in on the bubble metropolis
* aquabahn.com * twitter.com/aquabahn * 8tracks.com/sewersounds
AQUABAHN



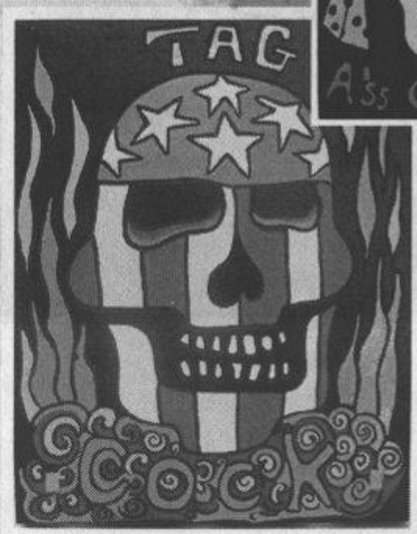
a headless Helfman pilots a proficient frontside air at FDR park yes yes the vert ramp is back in action

In my education as an educator I encountered a lot of talk about rubrics. I was encouraged to make rubrics in order for students to understand the difference between advanced, proficient, and basic performance. This has a lot to do with preparing students for standardized tests but I won't get into that. Rather than making these rubrics for open ended questions or projects, I got lost in my daydreams and made one for airs. All other things being equal, mind you, some folks take off hitting their tail while others bounce their wheels off the coping. Other folks stick with a heavy bag of lip tricks, that's a matter of style. That being said, rate your airs on a 4 point scale. Rubrics are generally designed with an even number of scores (in most cases 4) so that scorers don't gravitate toward the median. Some cases require averages. For example, an early grab lien to tail has a characteristic from advanced and a characteristic from basic, (4+2)/2 = 3, so that should be considered proficient according to this scale. Now there's a few skaters who refuse to do airs or acknowledge airs that aren't in the advanced category. To me, this is like refusing to answer any questions on the SAT for fear of getting them wrong. That's weak. If you're not catching any air your score is a zero - below below basic. Touch the sky.





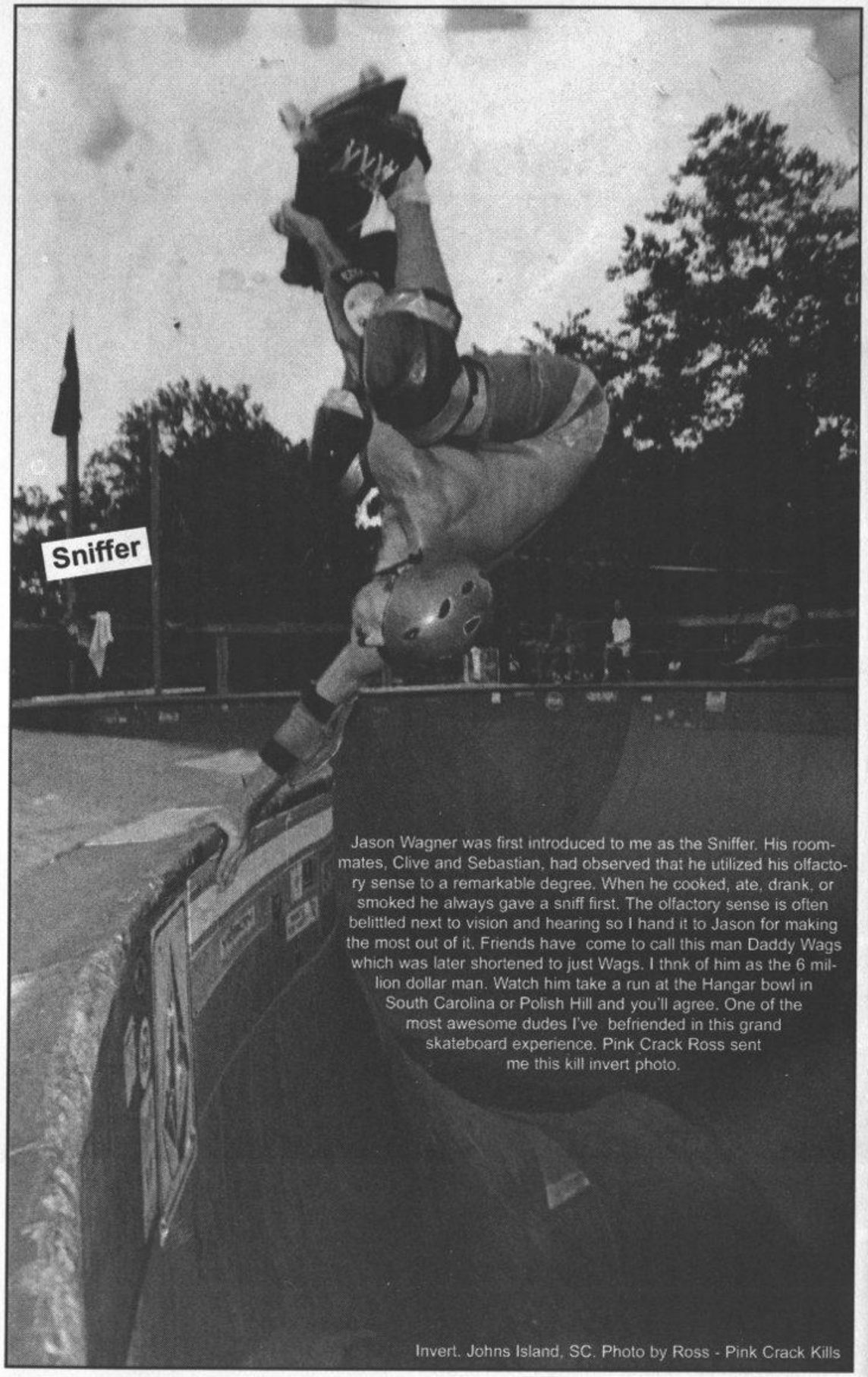
skate photos by
Wallacavage and
Coach Kenny
art by Tag



madonna in the peanut
invert in the toilet
frontal at a mall in jersey

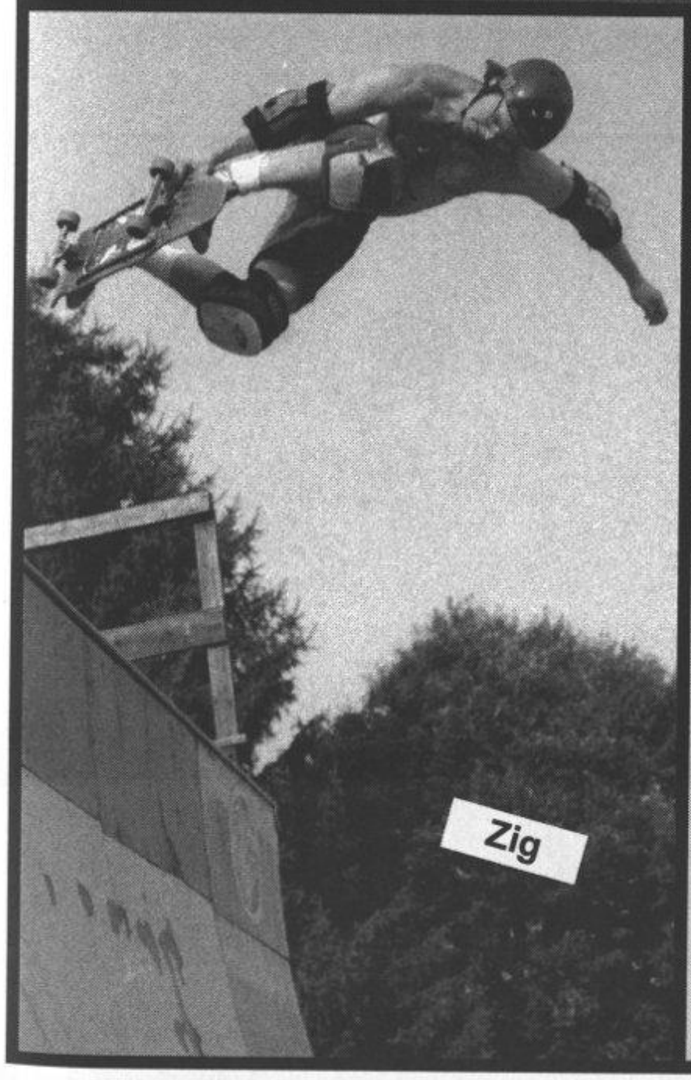
deathmarchskates.com

Dan Tag



Jason Wagner was first introduced to me as the Sniffer. His roommates, Clive and Sebastian, had observed that he utilized his olfactory sense to a remarkable degree. When he cooked, ate, drank, or smoked he always gave a sniff first. The olfactory sense is often belittled next to vision and hearing so I hand it to Jason for making the most out of it. Friends have come to call this man Daddy Wags which was later shortened to just Wags. I thnk of him as the 6 million dollar man. Watch him take a run at the Hangar bowl in South Carolina or Polish Hill and you'll agree. One of the most awesome dudes I've befriended in this grand skateboard experience. Pink Crack Ross sent me this kill invert photo.

Invert. Johns Island, SC. Photo by Ross - Pink Crack Kills



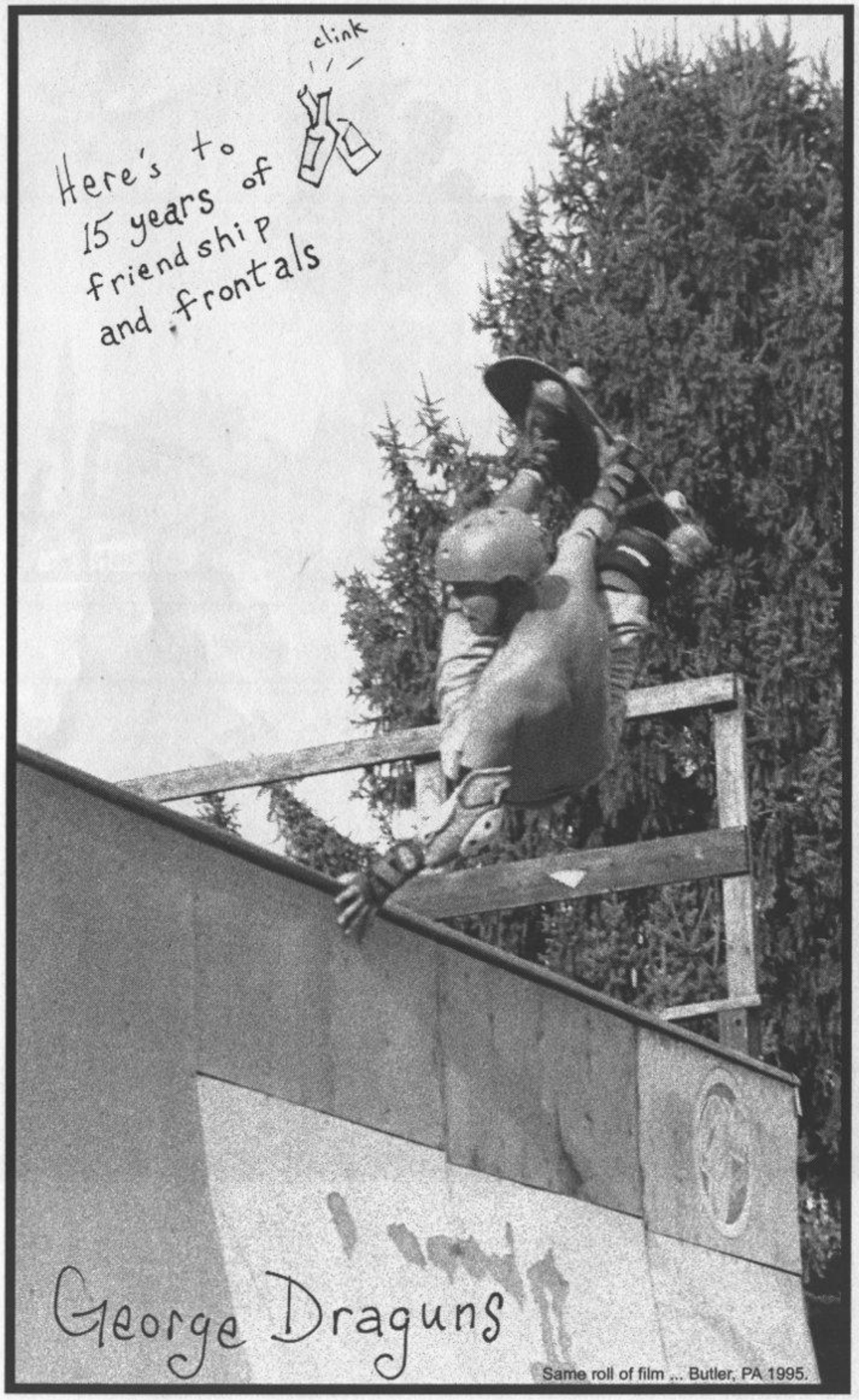
Zig's letter to Thrasher early 1990s ...

VERT SQUIRT

I am the only vert skater in Pittsburgh. The word is out that vert is coming back. I hope so. We have a great ramp over here at PA Cheapskates. (Not the one in Philly, but the one in Pittsburgh.) Sadly, no one skates it but me. Where are all of the vert skaters in this city? All I see are street skaters. They all look exactly alike. They are anti-social to everyone including other skaters. It's no wonder that skateboarding took a fall in the past two years. Everyone's attitude turned to shit. It was cool skating with people from other cities, states and countries. But nowadays no one cares who you are, just if you have an extra cigarette, dude. So here is some advice to some of you street skaters: Quit sitting on the curb in front of the 7-Eleven with your fat, ugly girlfriend with blue hair, put out that cigarette, and get some heart, pick up that skateboard that you're sitting on, walk up the stairs to the 12' tall steel ramp, put your board up to the lip and drop in. It just might change your life. But you will never know if you don't try. Just do it. (That's Rollins Band for all you posers who thought it was Nike.)

Mike Zigarovich
Pittsburgh, PA

Photos by Peleckis ... Butler, PA 1995.



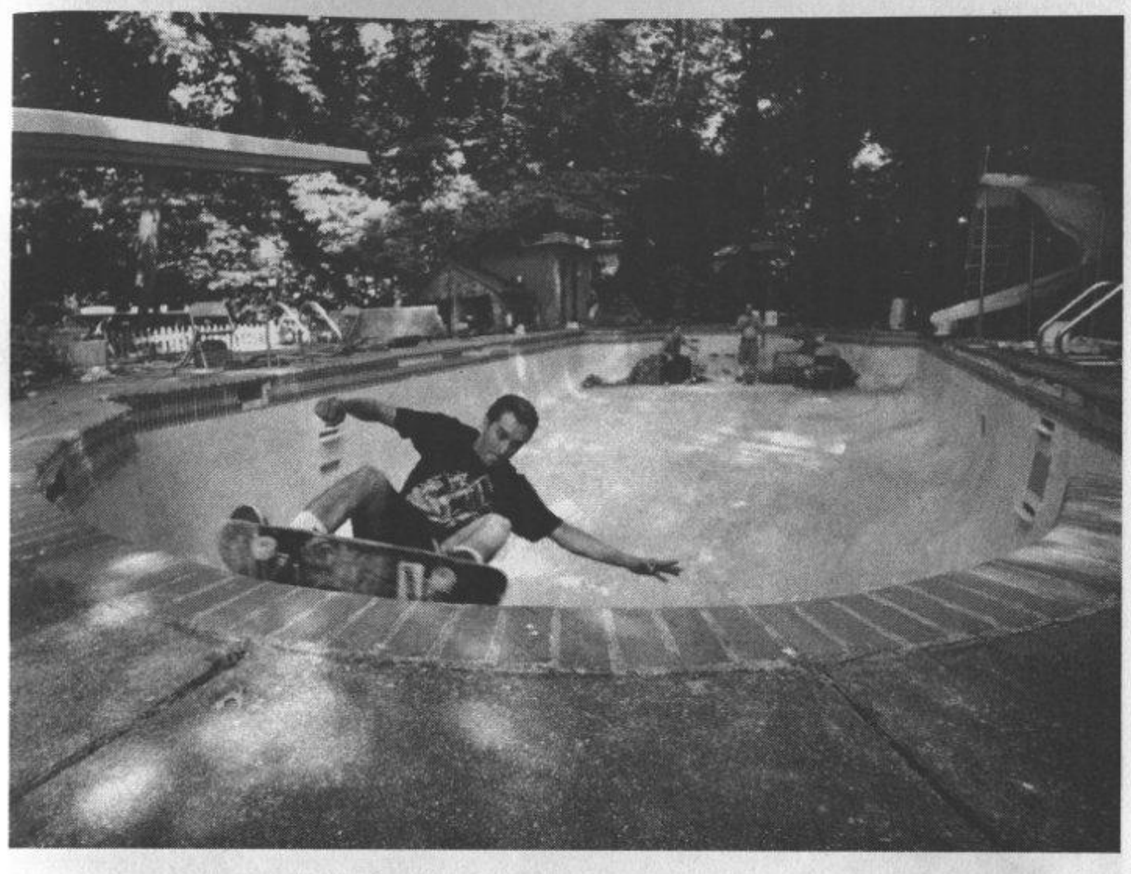
Same roll of film ... Butler, PA 1995.

positive hate
barney

George Draguns

Christmas shoppingat the mall and vacationing in Salbaland snapshots by Coach Kenny and Geoff Graham

Heavy traffic on I-95 so the dice and the dollars came out to pass the time. Not long after my daughters were born I started hyping up a road trip to Charleston for the Halloween jam. I asked the grandparents to help with the girls, called in the troops from Pittsburgh, got Carlos and his pranksters involved, fought off a case of the shingles, and there we were, rolling deep in a 15 passenger van. The mission was to skate Otis' pool and the hangar bowl (Hank's). It was a long trip for an afternoon of skating, a couple nights of partying, some gambling, and kicking it with old friends. Andrew ripped and captured these snapshots lest we forget.



Confessor checks in from the North West...

Hey Jewy! Shalom. Yeah man I need you to get me some of those illegally harvested kidneys, through Hoboken, from Israel. And uh yeah this is Mike, I'm just out here making stuff out of hemp, and recycling, and swimming in rivers (pronounced "rivuz"), and surfing with sea lions, and doing a little bit of that skate-boarding. I gotta couple pools in town. Whoooooooo!

Hilary Mann rendered this image of the confessor after meeting him in fine form at the Attleboro bowl up in Mass. Summer 2004. The grind photo is from back East before his Westward migration Summer 2007.

The late great Sean Miller upside down and spinning five hundred and forty degrees. Kona 1991. Photo © Geoff Graham

This seems like as good a place as any to mention those who have recently passed but are not forgotten.

Zito of ZT Maximus
Mark MacDonald
Andy Kessler
J.R. Neves

TOO MUCH ALL THE TIME
ZITO
In Memory of
KENNY DEUTSCH
1950 - 2009
MAXIMUS

DROPOUT WHEELS

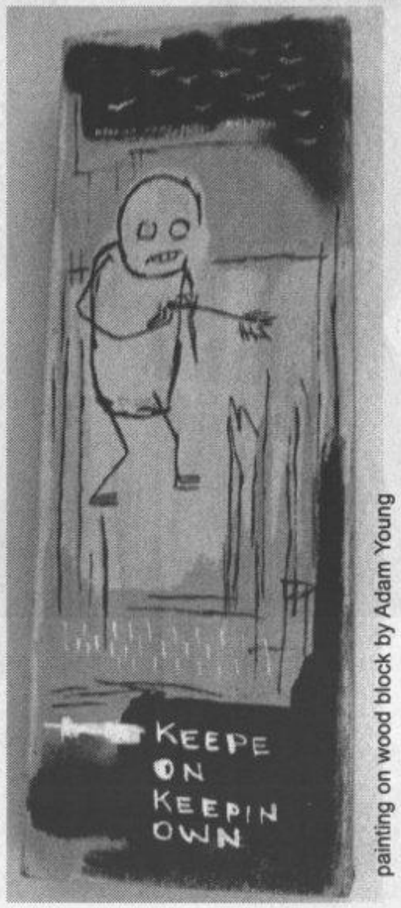
TOO OLD TO GIVE A FUCK. WEZ LUNDRY. NEW WHEELS SOON.

CONTACT: MYSPACE.COM/DROPOUTWHEELS -OR- P.O. BOX 86685. PDX OR. 97286

You might find yourself saying... Don't make me stop this car. I'm gonna give you something to cry about. This here is the rad dad issue. 15 years of balance. Whew! My hope is that this is something that gets you hyped if you stumble across it in the near or distant future. The beauty of this medium is that it is something you can stuff in the glovebox, on a shelf, or in a drawer. You can hold it in your hands, pass it

Don't make me stop this car.

on to a friend, or crumple it up and leave it for a stranger to find. Spill beer or coffee or the beverage of your choice on it and it will still survive another reading or perusal. Every skater and/or photographer featured herein is someone I met on a skate trip, skateboarding. This is this. Nap time is over.



painting on wood block by Adam Young

NEVER AGAIN

DAN TAG PRO MODEL

32.5 IN X8.62 IN...15 IN WB

NASAL TO FAKIE...FURNEE PHOTO

WWW.NEVERAGAINCLOTHING.COM